

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.(Currently Amended) A built-in cooking appliance with a main body that includes a casing having an opening defined therein at an upper portion thereof, a heating source accommodated in the casing, and a top plate unit fixed to the casing so as to close the opening in the casing, the main body being adapted to be inserted into an opening defined in a kitchen counter, on which a lower surface of the top plate unit is placed, the top plate unit comprising:

a top plate on which an object to be heated is placed;

an underframe for holding the top plate placed on an upper surface thereof, the underframe having an outer peripheral edge confronting ~~and being adapted to be placed on an upper surface of the kitchen counter; and counter in a manner in which a lower surface of the underframe is held in contact with the upper surface of the kitchen counter; and~~

a decorative panel for covering an upper portion of an outer peripheral edge of the top plate;

wherein the decorative panel has an inwardly bent portion that has been formed by bending an outer peripheral edge portion of the decorative panel inwardly toward a lower surface of the underframe to hold the outer peripheral edge of the underframe.

2.(Original) The built-in cooking appliance according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the inwardly bent portion is sandwiched between the outer peripheral edge of the underframe and the upper surface of the kitchen counter such that part or all of a total weight of the main body is applied

to the at least the portion of the inwardly bent portion that is sandwiched between the outer peripheral edge of the underframe and the upper surface of the kitchen counter.

3. **(Previously Presented)** The built-in cooking appliance according to claim 1, wherein a surface of the underframe on which the top plate is placed is lower than the upper surface of the kitchen counter on which the decorative panel is placed.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The built-in cooking appliance according to claim 1, wherein when the main body is inserted into the opening in the kitchen counter, a predetermined clearance is created between the upper surface of the kitchen counter and the lower surface of the underframe inside the inwardly bent portion of the decorative panel, and further comprising a sealant provided in the predetermined clearance below the lower surface of the underframe.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The built-in cooking appliance according to claim 1, wherein the top plate, the underframe, and the decorative panel are bonded together at the same time.

6. **(Original)** The built-in cooking appliance according to claim 5, wherein the underframe has a downwardly protruding adhesive receiving groove defined therein below the outer peripheral edge of the top plate, and further comprising an adhesive received in the adhesive receiving groove to bond the top plate, the underframe, and the decorative panel together at the same time.

7.(Currently Amended) A kitchen counter having a built-in cooking appliance according claim

1 that is received in an opening defined therein, the kitchen counter comprising:

an upper surface on which the built-in cooking appliance is placed; and

a stepped portion formed around the opening so as to be lower than the upper surface;

wherein a lower surface of the inwardly bent portion of the decorative panel is held in

contact with the upper surface, and a predetermined clearance is provided between a lower surface of
~~a portion~~ of the underframe and the upper surface of the stepped portion.

8.(Cancelled)

9.(New) A kitchen counter having a built-in cooking appliance according to claim 6 that is received in an opening defined therein, the kitchen counter comprising:

an upper surface on which the built-in cooking appliance is placed; and

a stepped portion formed around the opening so as to be lower than the upper surface;

wherein a lower surface of the inwardly bent portion of the decorative panel is held in

contact with the upper surface, and a predetermined clearance is provided between a lower surface of the adhesive receiving groove and the upper surface of the stepped portion.